

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15 SAM-01 OES-05

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5621

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UNCLAS LONDON 15895

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, UK

SUBJECT: LARGE UK CONCERN SEEKS DISCUSSIONS WITH USG  
OFFICIALS ON POSSIBLE FUTURE APPLICATIONS OF LIQUID  
PETROLEUM GAS (LPG).

REF: LONDON 7459

SUMMARY: COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR OF SUBSIDIARY OF LARGE U.K.  
FIRM WISHES TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES FOR MARKETING  
AND EXPANDING USE OF NORTH-SEA-ORIGIN LPG IN U.S. WITH  
ASSISTANCE AND/OR IN JOINT VENTURE WITH U.S. FIRM/FIRMS.  
END SUMMARY

RTZ DEVELOPMELT ENTERPRISES LTD IS WHOLLY OWNED SUB-  
SIDIARY OF LARGE (1974 SALES OVER 2 BILLION DOLLARS)  
AND REPUTABLE U.K. MINING COMPANY RIO TINTO ZINC CORPOR-  
ATION LTD. RTZ DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISES IN COMPANY WITH  
FELLOW SUBSIDIARY RTZ OIL & GAS LTD HAS SEVERAL MINORITY  
INTERESTS IN ON-GOING EXPLORATION IN NORTH SEA. AMONG  
THESE IS DRILLING SERIES ON BLOCK 9/8 WHICH REVEALED  
A SUBSTANTIAL GAS-CONDENSATE RESERVOIR.

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COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR OF RTZ DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISES

LTD., PETER J. JACKSON, PLANS VISIT U.S. BEGINNING OF NOVEMBER TO DISCUSS PROSPECTS FOR USE OF LPG WITH U.S. COMPANIES AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. JACKSON STATES THAT LIGHT NORTH SEA OIL CONTAINS FAR HIGHER PROPORTIONS PROPANE AND BUTANE THAN MIDDLE EAST CRUDES. BELIEVES THAT RTZ'S POTENTIAL DEPOSITS PLUS OTHER WELLS IN NORTH SEA UNDER VARIOUS OWNERSHIPS COULD YIELD SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITIES OF LPG (FYI, UNLIKE LNG, DISPOSITION OF WHICH IS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE NATIONALIZED BRITISH GAS COMPANY, BUTANE & PROPANE MAY BE EXPORTED BY NON-GOVERNMENT COMPANIES). JACKSON SEES PRIMARY INTEREST IN LPG AS A FEEDSTOCK FOR PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY, HOWEVER LPG COULD HAVE WIDE APPLICATION IN REMOTE AREAS WHERE PIPED LNG IS NOT AVAILABLE.

JACKSON WOULD LIKE LOW-KEY DISCUSSIONS WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE U.S. OFFICIALS IN FEA/FPC, STATE DEPARTMENT (ORF/FSE) AND ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE AGENCIES TO ASCERTAIN:

- A. EXTENT OF INTEREST IN USE OF LPG AS ALTERNATE FUEL SOURCE.
- B. CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL ATMOSPHERE WITH RESPECT TO USE OF CLEANER FUELS SUCH AS LPG.
- C. POSSIBILITIES OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATION WITH U.S. FIRMS IN EVENTUAL MARKETING WITHIN THE U.S. AND/OR JOINT PRODUCTION FACILITIES.

EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE IN CONTACTING APPROPRIATE TDFICIALS. MR. JACKSON PROPOSES TO BE IN WASHINGTON FIPST WEEK OF NOVEMBER.  
RICHARDSON

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